

Message Text

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43

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-14 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 AID-20

IGA-02 DRC-01 /140 W

----- 052170

O 171100Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9881

INFO USINT ALGIERS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAKAR IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL LUANDA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L CONAKRY 0900

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS : PFOR US PINS GV PO

SUBJECT : MEETING WITH PAIGC SEC GEN PEREIRA

REF: CONAKRY 0897 (NOTAL)

1. DCM MET WITH ARISTIDZE PEREIRA, SEC GEN PAIGC, JUNE 15 AT 1700. DCM EXPLAINED ONCE MORE THAT AMBASSADOR UNABLE TO CALL ON PEREIRA WITHOUT PRIOR AUTHORIZATION FROM WASHINGTON. PEREIRA SAID HE UNDERSTOOD BUT NEVERTHELESS HE REGRETTED THIS AS HE WISHED TO CONVEY IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO USG AS LONG-TIME LEADER IN STRUGGLE FOR INDEPENDENCE. HE HOPED US COULD HELP PAIGC "WHICH VERY SMALL AND WEAK". PEREIRA SAID THAT HE WOULD BE READY TO SEND DELEGATION TO US IF THIS WERE POSSIBLE.

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2. PEREIRA CONTINUED THAT PROBLEMS WERE NOW ARISING IN THE NEGOTIATIONS WITH PORTUGAL. PAIGC NOT ALONE IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS: THEY IN EFFECT SPOKE FOR OTHER LIBERATION MOVEMENTS; IN FACT ALL OF AFRICA, REPRESENTED BY OAU NOW HOLDING SUMMIT CONFERENCE, WAS "SITTING BEHIND THEIR CHAIR" AT NEGOTIATING TABLE. GUINEA-BISSAU IS ALREADY RECOGNIZED BY 85 STATES. IT CANNOT MOVE BACKWARD NOW. THUS IT CANNOT ACCEPT A REFERENDUM IN GUINEA-BISSAU EVEN IF IT WANTED TO DO SO. PEREIRA REPEATED THAT IF PAIGC WERE ALONE, IT MIGHT BE ABLE TO MAKE SOME CONCESSIONS, BUT IN PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES IT CANNOT.

3. PEREIRA SAID HE REALIZED THAT PORTUGAL HAD PROBLEMS AS WELL. HE HAD IMPRESSION THAT DIVISIONS EXIST BETWEEN JUNTA AND GOVERNMENT; JUNTA DOMINATED BY SPINOLA'S IDEAS AND LESS WILLING TO MAKE CONCESSIONS.

4. PEREIRA SAID HE HAD HEARD VARIOUS STORIES ABOUT USG INTEREST IN CAPE VERDE ISLANDS AND EVEN US INTENTION TO ESTABLISH MILITARY BASE THERE. DCM ASSURED PEREIRA THAT THESE STORIES WERE PURE FABRICATION, ALTHOUGH WE TOO HAD HEARD SUCH RUMORS FROM VARIOUS SOURCES. DCM REPEATED THAT US HAS SCRUPULOUSLY AVOIDED INTERVENING IN ANY WAY IN NEGOTIATIONS NOW IN PROGRESS. PEREIRA SAID HE REALLY DIDN'T BELIEVE STORIES EITHER. HOWEVER EVEN IF TRUE AND EVEN IF US DID HAVE INTEREST IN CAPE VERDE ISLANDS, USG WOULD BE BETTER ADVISED TO TALK WITH PAIGC ABOUT IT THAN WITH PORTUGAL.

5. DCM SAID HE HAD HEARD THAT ALGIERS NEGOTIATIONS WERE SUSPENDED AND WONDERED WHAT WAS SPECIFIC REASON. WAS CAPE VERDE ISLANDS PROBLEM SOURCE OF TROUBLE? PEREIRA CONFIRMED THAT ALGIERS TALKS WERE SUSPENDED BECAUSE OF VARIOUS DIFFERENCES THAT HAD ARISEN, GENERALLY AS DESCRIBED ABOVE. YES, HE SAID, CAPE VERDE ISLANDS WERE PROBABLY MOST DIFFICULT PROBLEM. PAIGC IS NOT DEMANDING IMMEDIATE INDEPENDENCE, BUT DOES INSIST THAT PORTUGAL SPECIFICALLY RECOGNIZE "RIGHT OF INDEPENDENCE". SO FAR PORTUGUESE HAVE BEEN WILLING ONLY TO TALK ABOUT "RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION." PEREIRA SAID THAT THIS WAS INSUFFICIENT.

6. DCM QUERIED PEREIRA ABOUT RECENT PAIGC COMMUNIQUE REGARDING MERCENARIES SUPPOSEDLY ENTERING GUINEA-BISSAU BY SHIP FROM

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DAKAR. PEREIRA RESPONDED THAT HE HAD HEARD THAT MERCENARIES -- ALL AFRICAN -- HAD LANDED BUT HAD NO INFORMATION YET ON WHAT THEY WERE DOING IN GUINEA-BISSAU.
TODMAN

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